



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS  
701 S. COURTHOUSE ROAD, SUITE 1001  
ARLINGTON, VA 22204-2490

TAL  
Docket No: 2804-13  
27 February 2014

[REDACTED]

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of title 10 of the United States Code, section 1552.

A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 12 February 2014. Your allegations of error and injustice were reviewed in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures applicable to the proceedings of this Board. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of your application, together with all material submitted in support thereof, your naval record, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies.

After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

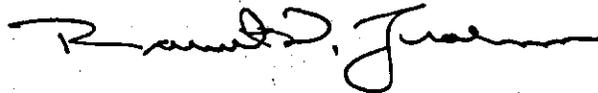
You enlisted in the Marine Corps and began a period of active duty on 9 July 1974 at age 20. You received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) on four occasions for sleeping on post as a fire watch, three instances of failure to go to your appointed place of duty, and using disrespectful language toward a noncommissioned officer. On 31 March 1976 you were released from active duty in compliance with the Expeditious Discharge Program. You were discharged under honorable conditions based on your conduct mark average.

Characterization of service is based in part on conduct and proficiency averages computed from marks assigned on a periodic basis. Your conduct average was 3.5. At the time of your service, a conduct average of 4.0 was required for a fully honorable characterization of service.

The Board, in its review of your application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and overall record of service. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant upgrading your discharge given your misconduct that resulted in four NJPs and failure to attain the required average in conduct. Finally, there is no provision of law or in Marine Corps regulations that allows for recharacterization of service due solely to the passage of time. The Board believed you were fortunate to receive a general characterization of service, since Marines who have committed misconduct normally receive other than honorable discharges. Accordingly, your application has been denied. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request.

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that favorable action cannot be taken. You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon submission of new and material evidence or other matter not previously considered by the Board. In this regard, it is important to keep in mind that a presumption of regularity attaches to all official records. Consequently, when applying for a correction of an official naval record, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate the existence of probable material error or injustice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert D. Zsalmán".

ROBERT D. ZSALMAN  
Acting Executive Director